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# Thomas J. Watson Library

## Research Guide

### Guide to Freely Available Resources for Remote Research

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How and where to conduct online academic and art history research for free.

**Thomas J. Watson Library**  
The Met Fifth Avenue  
1000 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10028

212-650-2225  
For current Library hours visit  
us at [metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/thomas-j-watson-library](https://metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/thomas-j-watson-library)

#### **How-to Guides for the Online Research Process**

[Academic Research Online](#) (Center for Online Education)

[Database Search Tips](#) (MIT Libraries)

[Research Process Guide: Preparing to Search](#) (Northcentral University)

[Research Help](#) and [Researching With Wikipedia](#) (Wikipedia)  
Guides on how to use Wikipedia articles to find reliable resources. Do NOT cite Wikipedia as a scholarly source.

[Citation Chart for MLA, APA, and CMOS](#) (Purdue Online Writing Lab).  
Refer to page 6 for information on how to cite online sources.

#### **Free Online Research Materials**

The [library catalog](#) contains numerous free online resources that may be of interest to art historical researchers. These resources are accessible to all users, remotely or onsite. To access the full list of resources, click [here](#). Alternatively, click on *E-Resources* in the menu across the top of the [Watsonline](#) homepage. Then under the heading *By Material Type* click *Open Access*. Below is a small subset of resources you will find there.

For information on remotely researching objects in the The Met's permanent collection, please see [this guide](#).

#### **Resources from The Met**

[Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History](#)  
Essays and timelines are paired with objects in The Met's collections.

[Watson Library Digital Collections](#)  
Access digital versions of rare and unique material in Watson's collections.

[MetPublications](#)  
A portal to The Met's publishing program with over 1,700 titles, including books, online publications, bulletins, and journals from 1911 to present.

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## General Resources

(These cover an array of subject areas, including but not exclusively the arts.)

### [Core](#)

Open access research papers aggregated from institutions around the world. Full-text available.

### [DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals](#)

Access an extensive array of freely available, peer-reviewed journals and articles covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social sciences, arts, and humanities.

### [Google Scholar](#)

A search engine for scholarly books and articles. Occasionally links to full text. Useful for bibliographic information.

### [HathiTrust Digital Library](#)

A catalog of digitized books and articles from academic and research libraries and institutions. Some full-text available.

### [Internet Archive](#)

An enormous repository of digitized books, texts, web pages, audio recordings, videos, and images. Full-text is available, though some materials may require you to create a free personal account. Users may upload content and the Internet Archive does not make guarantees as to the copyright status of items, so please verify rights before making use of content.

### [WorldCat](#)

Search the catalogs of over 10,000 libraries worldwide. No full-text, but good for citations and for finding materials that may not be currently available at Watson at libraries in the area.

## Art-Specific Resources

### [African American Visual Artists Database](#)

Biographical information, bibliographies, and exhibition histories of artists of the African Diaspora and Africa who have lived, worked, studied, or exhibited in the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean.

### [Art Discovery Group Catalogue](#)

Search the catalogs of over 100 art libraries on a single platform.

### [Bibliography of the History of Art and Répertoire international de la littérature de l'art](#)

An index of scholarship on European and American visual arts from 1975 to 2007.

### [Getty Provenance Index](#)

Provides access to archival inventories, sales catalogs, and dealer stock books, especially pertaining to art of the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries.

### [Getty Research Portal](#)

Provides access to an extensive collection of digitized art history texts from a range of institutions.

### [IFAR Catalogues Raisonnés Database](#)

An index to catalogues raisonnés and catalogues in preparation.

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### [Native American Artists Resource Collection](#)

Indexes the artists represented in the Native American Artists Resource Collection at the Heard Museum's Billie Jane Baguley Library and Archives.

### [Pleiades](#)

A gazetteer of ancient places with extensive coverage of the Greek and Roman world, and expanding coverage of Ancient Near Eastern, Byzantine, Celtic, and Early Medieval geography.

### **Have a question?**

Reach a reference librarian at [watson.library@metmuseum.org](mailto:watson.library@metmuseum.org) or use our virtual chat service, Ask a Librarian, Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm, from the [Watsonline](#) homepage.

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